

See to Cuba
Subj: Alexander B. Rorke, Jr.
RORKE, JR.

Seized Cuban Exiles Make New Raid Plan

Crew Of Ship Released From Jail In Nassau,
Sets Sail Hoping To Slip Past Coast Guard

Miami, Fla., April 4 (AP)—Seven-teen sea raiders, released from a Bahamas jail today, chugged off in their 35-foot boat proclaiming they were on the warpath once more against Fidel Castro.

For more than eight hours they cruised west toward Miami rather than south toward Cuba, reported a United States Coast Guard plane that followed the Violynn III. Coast Guardsmen denied that darkness would interfere with continued surveillance of the craft.

Swing Southward

Underground sources in Miami said they ordered the sixteen Cubans and one American aboard to swing southward at 8.30 P.M. and rendezvous with the Omega I, which would provide ammunition to replace that confiscated by British naval units that captured the Violynn III on Sunday.

The rebels had been charged with possessing the arms without a license in British colonial territory.

"Death to Fidel; we are going on," said Evelio Duque, commander of the crew.

A possible deterrent to sailing

the Violynn III to Miami was the prospect of seizure there for investigation of claims that the craft took on its arms at Naples, Fla.—a contention the crew denied.

Hans Tanner, who said he represented Alexander B. Rorke, Jr., New York free-lance television reporter who owns the Violynn III, expressed belief the craft would be seized by United States authorities in Miami.

"Armed Anyway"

"Mr. Rorke gave permission for the boat to be used solely for the purpose of taking people into and out of Cuba," Tanner said.

"When we learned it was being armed at Naples, Fla., Mr. Rorke gave orders to the contrary. But it was armed anyway."

Since the United States cracked down on sneak attacks on Cuba, this was the first report of a raider boat being armed in this country. Cuban exiles have claimed that they operate entirely from bases outside United States territory.

However, Marcelino Garcia, an official of the Cuban anti-Com-

munist army of Escambray, denied in Miami that the boat had been armed in Naples. His aides said both vessels had been outfitted in international waters.

Sixteen Cubans and one American manned the Violynn III.

Will File Charges

Tanner said he had planned to file grand larceny charges against the Cubans in Nassau but decided instead to have the matter settled in Miami.

Tanner, of Schaffhausen, Switzerland, said he conferred with Charles Ashmann, attorney for the Cuban raiders, and agreed to let the Cubans leave and take up the matter in Miami.

Ashmann was asked if the craft was heading toward Miami. He replied, "I can only say this. They are very much aware of the policy of the United States and they don't intend to violate it. I would not say they are coming here. I got the impression they intended to continue to fight."